

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 6, 8 and 16 have been amended. Claim 19 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-18 are pending and under consideration. Claims 1-5 are allowed. Claims 8-12, 16 and 17 are objected to.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tsujioka (U.S. Patent No. 5,410,531)

The rejection is moot.

Claims 6, 7, 13-15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ishibashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,442,114).

Independent claim 6 recites the light spots having a same displacement in a radial direction of the recording medium. Present FIG. 2 illustrates light spots 32a, 32b having a same position on the recording medium 50. In contrast, Ishibashi et al discloses an optical carrier 100 on which laser beams L1, L2 and L3 are projected. However, the laser beams L1, L2 and L3 are spaced in a radial direction of the optical disc 100. Ishibashi et al., FIG. 7.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

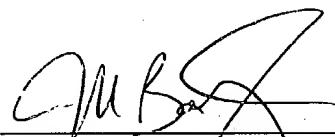
If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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